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17 July 2017

Clerk to the Establishment Subcommittee Legislative Council Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central, Hong Kong (Attn: Mr Keith WONG)

Dear Mr WONG,

Establishment Subcommittee Follow-up to Meeting on 24 May 2017 <u>EC(2016-17)29</u>

Further to our reply on 5 June to the letter of The Honourable CHU Hoi-dick provided at the meeting of the Establishment Subcommittee of the Legislative Council held on 24 May 2017, enclosed please find the response to Question (I).

Yours sincerely,

(signed) (C H LAI) for Secretary for Development

c.c. Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury

(Attn: Deputy Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury) 1)

Director of Civil Engineering and Development

(Attn: Project Manager (Hong Kong Island and Islands))

Regarding Sustainable Lantau Office (Enquiry 2)

Regarding The Honourable CHU Hoi-dick's question (I), after consulting the Security Bureau and the Census and Statistics Department, our reply is given as follows.

Question (I) Basis for Population Estimation

As the East Lantau Metropolis (ELM) project is a key task for the Sustainable Lantau Office (SLO), and creating "capacity" has been stressed repeatedly in the sections about the ELM in the public consultation documents for the Hong Kong 2030+, we hope that the Government can provide further information regarding population change:

- (1) Please inform us of the number of immigrants under the admission schemes of talents/professionals and similar schemes, as well as the distribution by their nationalities and occupations, in the past ten years.
- (2) Please inform us of the respective numbers of immigrants and emigrants, excluding those for family reunion, in the past ten years.
- (3) Please inform us of the number of young people from China who eventually secure employment or settle in Hong Kong due to their studies at universities or research institutes in Hong Kong, as well as the distribution by their occupations, in the past ten years. If no such information is available at the moment, please pledge to compile the relevant data, carry out surveys and provide this Subcommittee with supplementary information.

Reply: The Government has provided the relevant information at the Legislative Council (LegCo) Special Finance Committee meetings (see Question Serial No. 0193 for Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2014-15 and Question Serial No. 0116 for Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2016-17) and the LegCo meeting on 1 March 2017 (Question No. 21). The lengths of stay for persons admitted to Hong Kong vary among different admission schemes, ranging from as short as a few days to several months, depending on the purpose of their visits. They must leave Hong Kong before the expiry of their limit of stay unless they meet the relevant criteria and have acquired the right of abode in Hong Kong. Regarding the numbers of immigrants and emigrants excluding those for family reunion, the Government does not maintain the relevant statistics.

Records of the replies made at the above meetings are accessible at the links below:

- (i) Question No. 0193 for Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2014-15: http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr13-14/english/fc/fc/sup_w/s-sb-e.pdf
- (ii) Question No. 0116 for Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2016-17: http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr15-16/english/fc/fc/w_q/sb-e.pdf
- (iii) Reply to Question No. 21 at LegCo meeting on 1 March 2017:

 $\frac{http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr16-17/english/counmtg/hansard/cm20170301-translate-e.pdf\#nameddest=wrq}{}$